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SENATE MEMORIAL 25

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

Cisco McSorley

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 27, 2010 "FARM AND RANCH WORKERS' DAY" AT THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, agriculture's contribution to New Mexico's heritage and economic health is well-known; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked sixth in the nation in the exportation of dairy products, the state's number one agricultural commodity; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked thirteenth in the nation in cattle production, our number two commodity; and

WHEREAS, according to United States department of agriculture rankings, only California had greater chile production than New Mexico, and New Mexicans know that no place grows better chile than New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the New Mexico farm and ranch community

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1 earned a net profit of eight hundred twenty-nine million eight
2 hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$829,835,000); and

3 WHEREAS, major farm and ranch production in New Mexico
4 includes cattle, sheep and wool, dairy products, alfalfa and
5 other hays, wheat, sorghum, cotton, chile, pecans, lettuce,
6 corn and onions; and

7 WHEREAS, the production of many of these commodities would
8 not be possible without the approximately twelve thousand farm
9 and ranch workers in New Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers in New Mexico have been
11 tending crops and livestock since before 1920, which is the
12 year that large-scale agriculture began in this state; and

13 WHEREAS, for all of this time, farm and ranch workers have
14 been the backbone of much of the farming and ranching industry;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers labor in one of the most
17 dangerous occupations in the United States, and in 2008,
18 forty-three thousand seven hundred of them suffered disabling
19 injuries from work-related accidents; and

20 WHEREAS, many farm and ranch workers receive little
21 recognition for their work; and

22 WHEREAS, all New Mexicans benefit from the labor of farm
23 and ranch workers;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
25 OF NEW MEXICO that January 27, 2010 be declared "Farm and Ranch

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1 Workers' Day" at the senate to honor the hardworking people
2 whose role in New Mexico's economy is of great importance to
3 all residents of the state; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the governor and the lieutenant governor.

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